

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/716,618	ELJAALA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ing-Hour Lin	1725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS**. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 11/20/03.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. The drawings filed on 20 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>0625</u> 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>0625</u>. 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
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1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Joe McKinney Muncy on June 25, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The typo of "receptable" in this application was substituted by -- receptacle--.

At page 1, line 5, "RECEPTABLE" was changed to -- RECEPTACLE--; and -- receptacle—substituted "receptable" in lines 7-8, 10, 13, 16-17, 22, 24-28 and 34.

At page 2, --receptacle—substituted "receptable" in lines 3, 6-8, 13, 20-22, 24, 29 and 35.

At page 3, --receptacle—substituted "receptable" in lines 1-2, 6-7, 12, 12, 18, 20-24, 26, 33 and 35.

At page 4, --receptacle—substituted "receptable" in lines 2, 5-8, 12-13, 15-18, 21-22, 24-26, and 32-33.

At page 5, --receptacle—substituted "receptable" in lines 4, 11, 15, 24, 27-29, 31-33 and 35.

At page 6, --receptacle—substituted "receptable" in lines 14-16, 19, 22-23, 26, 29, 31, 34 and 36.

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At page 7, --receptacle—substituted “receptable” in lines 1-7, 10, 13-15, 18, 22-23, 25 and 33; and line 29, --sensor 10—substituted “sensor 1”.

At page 8, --receptacle—substituted “receptable” in lines 1, 3, 5-7, 10-13, 19, 24, 27 and 29-31.

At page 9, --receptacle—substituted “receptable” in lines 3 and 12.

IN THE ABSTRACT

At page 13, --receptacle—substituted “receptable” in lines 2, 4, 7, and 10-11.

IN THE CLAIMS

There is a typo of “receptable” in the claims, which was substituted by – receptacle--.

Claim 1, lines 1, 6, 9 and 14, --receptacle-- substituted “receptable”.

Claim 2, lines 1, 3, and 8, --receptacle-- substituted “receptable”.

Claim 3, lines 1, 2 and 5, --receptacle-- substituted “receptable”.

Claim 4, lines 1, 3, and 6-7, --receptacle-- substituted “receptable”.

Claim 5, lines 1-3, --receptacle-- substituted “receptable”.

Claim 6, lines 1-3, --receptacle-- substituted “receptable”.

Claim 7, line 1, --receptacle-- substituted “receptable”.

Claim 8, lines 6-9, 12, 14-18, 21-23, 25, 27-28 and 34, --receptacle-- substituted “receptable”.

Claim 9, line 4, --receptacle-- substituted “receptable”.

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Claim 10, lines 2 and 5, --receptacle-- substituted "receptable"; and line 4, after "with" the word "the" was deleted.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of either Quinan or Hodler fails to teach the claimed casting receptacle. Indeed, the prior art record fails to teach or suggest the combination of elements in the claimed casting receptacle for processing melt and for use in the claimed casting method, wherein the casting receptacle comprising: a shell, the bottom part of which is substantially in the shape of a cut cone and downwards convergent and a shutter plug, and wherein the shutter plug is substantially a sharp cone in shape, and extends in its closed position a distance further than the substantially conical bottom part of the shell, thus forming a substantially sharp point at the bottom part of the casting receptacle. Therefore, the claimed feature is allowable over the art of record.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ing-Hour Lin whose telephone number is (571) 272-1180. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30) Second Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Dunn can be reached on (571) 272-1171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

I-H. Lin

06-25-04

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